

# WORKPLACE CONNECTION

" ENRICHING LIVES "

September / October 2005

Vol. 15, Issue 5

## Charitable Giving Campaign Starts

**O**n a motion by Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair, the Board of Supervisors approved the County's 2005 Charitable Giving Campaign, "Changing Our Community." Honorary Chairs are CAO David E. Janssen, Sheriff Lee Baca and Fire Chief P. Michael Freeman. The campaign co-chairs are Bryce Yokomizo, Department of Public Social Services; Dr. Thomas Garthwaite, Health Services; Janice Fukai, Alternate Public Defender; and Marcia Mayeda, Animal Care and Control.

Last year County employees donated \$1.6 million to the campaign, which will be used by the fund distribution agencies—United Way, Brotherhood Crusade, Asian Pacific Community Fund, Earth Share of California and the United Latino Fund—to support health and human service programs.

Payroll deduction and fundraising events are conducted by department coordinators in support of the fundraising effort.

For more information, contact your department coordinator or call the CAO Workplace Programs office at **(213) 974-2619**.



*Supervisor Gloria Molina and CAO David Janssen, right, are joined by Dennis Tafoya, director, Office of Affirmative Action Compliance, to present an outstanding coordinator award to Jackie Sloniker.*

Photos by Martin Zamora



*Supervisor Don Knabe presents a mock \$1.6 million check to the County's five charitable giving campaign partners, from left, Pat Smith, Earth Share of California; Ellen Misawa, Asian Pacific Community Fund; Marsel Watts, Brotherhood Crusade; Keith Green, United Way; Cherisse Bremond, Brotherhood Crusade; and Maria Lou Calanche, United Latino Fund.*



*County employees visit the information tables at recent Rideshare Fairs held at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall and at the Department of Health Services, Commonwealth Avenue site.*



## Vicious Dog Protection



*Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich recently announced a new effort to protect County residents from vicious dogs.*

## Civic Center Clean Air/Rideshare Fair Set for Oct. 6

**T**he annual Civic Center Clean Air/Rideshare Fair will be held on "Rideshare Thursday," October 6, 10:00 a.m. in the Mall area of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 W. Temple St., in downtown Los Angeles.

Presented as part of "California Rideshare Week," the fair is an opportunity for County employees to learn about the clean air options available and get a first-hand look at alternative fuel vehicles.

"We want to encourage workers who

drive alone to give ridesharing a chance," said Chief Administrative Officer David E. Janssen.

Transportation vendors from Metro, Foothill Transit, South Coast Air Quality Management District and Metrolink will be on hand to share information. Also on display will be Segways, vanpools, hybrid cars and buses.

All County employees are invited to the free event. For more information, please contact your department employee transportation coordinator or call **(213) 974-1182**.

## ETC Spotlight



Verenice Zepeda

**V**erenice Zepeda, Employee Transportation Coordinator (ETC) for the Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center, uses

personal contact, e-mail blasts, monthly clean-air bulletins, and rideshare newsletters, to keep staff up-to-date on the County's clean-air program.

"What would we do if the air became so unhealthy that our children were forced to remain indoors instead of being able to go outside to play? Most of us would be very vocal in voicing our complaints, while we demanded that the government do something about air quality," she said, during a recent interview.

"But if we pull together while the air is still breathable, we will never get to that point."

Ms. Zepeda is determined to combat smog at Rancho Los Amigos. "Our carpool program is a hit with employees. It provides prime parking space for our ridesharers," she noted. "My goal is to someday have all of the Rancho staff participating in ridesharing at least one day per month," she said.

According to the ETC, employees who "try public transit rarely go back to driving alone. Any ridesharing effort, regardless of how small, is better than no effort at all."

This is a point she makes to employees every chance she gets. "We have to keep the rideshare message in front of them."

Her protocol is to "approach employees with a positive attitude," which equals good results for her. She said, "I always try to emphasize with employees that ridesharing is not just something that they must do, but something that is good for everyone's future health."

Ms. Zepeda also reminds employees that ridesharing is not limited to carpooling and vanpooling, but also includes public transit (bus/train), biking or walking to work, and telecommuting.

In addition, she reminds staff that "ridesharing cuts down on gas costs, driving stress and wear and tear on the vehicles."

Although the job of an ETC adds work to her other job duties, Verenice admits that "sharing the clean-air

message with Rancho's employees and then having them turn around and say thanks" really makes her day.

"It's positive reinforcement and a nice gesture that lets me know I'm doing

my part," she added.

For more information on the County's rideshare program, please contact Dorothy Mosely, CAO Workplace Programs, at **(213) 974-1182**.



Los Angeles Regional Food Bank recognized the top five participating County worksites for the 2005 Cesar E. Chavez Food Drive, held in March. Ruben Rivero, left, CAO Workplace Programs, coordinated the Countywide drive, which collected 26,539 pounds of donated items, an increase of 9,522 pounds over 2004. Displaying their awards are, from left, Julie Tuttle, Auditor-Controller; Ernestina Leon, LAC+USC Medical Center; Glenn Stephens, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk; Frank Ochoa, Public Works; and Kelly Buck, Alternate Public Defender.

## Supervisors Proclaim "AIDS Walk Day"

**O**n a motion by Supervisor Gloria Molina, the Board of Supervisors has proclaimed Sunday, October 16, "AIDS Walk Los Angeles Day" in support of the annual fundraiser.

County employees, committed to "changing the course of the epidemic," have participated in the annual event throughout its 20-year history, raising more than \$350,000. The funds support critical services provided by AIDS Project Los Angeles and other local AIDS service organizations.

This year the 21st annual AIDS Walk will begin at 10:00 a.m. on the corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and San Vicente Boulevard in West Hollywood.



For more information, please contact Austin Riggs, team coordinator, at **(213) 201-9255** or visit the website at [www.aidswalk.net](http://www.aidswalk.net)



Craig Hirakawa, left, presents two Dodger game tickets to Dennis Jackson, center, DHS Office of AIDS. He won the tickets in the Blue Jeans for Babies opportunity drawings, which were conducted in July to support the March of Dimes WalkAmerica campaign. Joining in the presentation is Cheyenne Chambers, WalkAmerica team captain for Office of AIDS.



Reducing Substance Abuse." Her work examined tobacco addiction in substance abuse treatment facilities.

Loretta Washington, Department of Health Services, recently completed a prestigious fellowship with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation on "Developing Leadership in



Director Don Wolfe, left, Department of Public Works, and Ken Pellman, right, WalkAmerica team captain, commend the department's two winners in the Blue Jeans for Babies opportunity drawings. Silvia Madrid, second from left, received a sports bag and Ana Lopez received a WalkAmerica t-shirt.





Supervisor Gloria Molina participates in a recent cleanup day at Ruben Salazar Park in Los Angeles.

## Savings Bonds Program Continues

U.S. Savings Bonds are a safe and secure way to invest in your family's education or to achieve a financial goal. They earn competitive rates of return when compared to other forms of savings.

The bonds are exempt from state and local taxes, and purchasers may defer federal income taxes until they are redeemed. The bonds also are backed by the full credit of the United States government.

There are two ways to invest—the traditional fixed-rate Series EE Bond or the new inflation-indexed Series I Bond.

Series EE bonds may be purchased for half of their face value. For example, the price of a \$100 bond is \$50. The I Bonds are sold at face value and earn a guaranteed rate of return over and above inflation for up to 30 years.

For convenience, both bonds are available to County employees through payroll deduction.

In addition, savings bonds may be purchased on a one-time only basis, making them ideal gifts for special occasions such as birthdays, graduations or holidays.

For more information, please contact Ruben Rivero, Countywide coordinator, at (213) 974-2523, or via e-mail at [rrivero@cao.co.la.ca.us](mailto:rrivero@cao.co.la.ca.us).



Philip Browning, third from right, director, Child Support Services Department, congratulates staff members during a recent awards ceremony. Last year the department successfully launched the business process redesign project at its Encino division.

## Diamond Award



Paul Amato, center, was a Diamond award recipient at the annual Rideshare ceremony. Congratulating him are Dorothy Mosley, second from left, CAO Workplace Programs, and Guillermo Medina and Yvonne Scavo, ETCs at the LAC+USC Medical Center.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
CHARITABLE GIVING CAMPAIGN

**2005**  
**CHARITABLE GIVING CAMPAIGN**  
"CHANGING OUR COMMUNITY"

SCARECROW BEAR  
\$5.00

PUMPKIN BEAR  
\$5.00

BEARS IN COSTUME  
\$5.00 each

**Contact Your**  
**Department 2005 Charitable Giving Coordinator**  
**or the Office of Workplace Programs**  
**Room B-1, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration**

**Ruben Rivero**  
(213) 974-2523

or

**Natalie Jimenez**  
(213) 974-2466

## NAMI Walk Planned for October 1 in Irwindale

Los Angeles County affiliates of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will sponsor a walk on Saturday, Oct. 1, at the Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area in Irwindale.

There is no entry fee to participate in the event, which begins at 9:30 a.m., and kicks off "Mental Health Awareness Week" in the County. Entertainment will be provided along with refreshments.

NAMI's mission is to improve the lives of those affected by mental illness. It works with such programs as Family to Family, a 12-week course; Peer to Peer,

which targets individuals with a brain disorder/mental illness; and Hand to Hand, which works directly with parents, who have children or adolescents with emotional or mental disorders.

For more information, please call (213) 351-2874 or visit [www.namiwalkslac.org](http://www.namiwalkslac.org).



## Calendar of Events

### Civic Center "Clean Air Rideshare Fair"

Mall Area, Hahn Hall  
Thursday, October 6  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



#### Members of the Board

**Gloria Molina**  
Chair  
First District

**Yvonne B. Burke**  
Second District

**Don Knabe**  
Fourth District

**Zev Yaroslavsky**  
Third District

**Michael D. Antonovich**  
Fifth District

**David E. Janssen**  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Victoria Pipkin-Lane**  
Editor-in-Chief

Staff Writers

**Craig Hirakawa, Natalia Jimenez, Dorothy Mosley**

Graphic Artist  
**Loren Clapp**

**Workplace Connection is a bi-monthly publication focusing on air quality, rideshare, commuter and community service programs.**

Circulation: 95,000

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple St., Suite B-1, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 974-2619



In left photo, Supervisor Gloria Molina commends CAO David Janssen and staff members, from left, Victoria Pipkin-Lane, Natalia Jimenez and Craig Hirakawa, for a successful charitable giving campaign. At right, Supervisor Molina and CAO Janssen present a charitable giving campaign award to Tim Bissell, Chief Deputy, Consumer Affairs, and LaFrance Toliver, coordinator.



## Changing Our Community

County of  
Los Angeles

2005 Charitable  
Giving Campaign

**2006  
Entertainment  
Book Order Form**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_

Natalia Jimenez/Ruben Rivero  
Chief Administrative Office  
Workplace Programs  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, B-1  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
**Phone: (213) 974-2466 or Fax (213) 633-4694**

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and sign the attached form indicating what merchandise you would like to purchase or take on consignment. \* Checks are made payable to: **LAC VOLUNTEER FUND**

Item	Selling Price	Qty	Total Due
Entertainment Book <b>Inland Empire/Riverside/Palm Springs</b>	\$25		
Entertainment Book <b>Los Angeles</b>	\$25		
Entertainment Book <b>Orange County</b>	\$35		
Entertainment Book <b>San Diego</b>	\$40		
Entertainment Book <b>San Fernando</b>	\$25		
Entertainment Book <b>San Gabriel Valley</b>	\$25		
Entertainment Book <b>San Barbara/Ventura</b>	\$25		

\*Full payment for consignment orders must be paid by **December 14, 2005**.

All orders must be picked up at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, B-1, unless alternate arrangements are made. Please call (213) 974-2466 or (213) 974-2523 to arrange pick-up

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_